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**From:** Colleen Cripps  
**Sent:** Fri 3/28/2014 8:06:19 PM  
**Subject:** Eureka Update for April 2014

Good afternoon,

The following is an update of recent and upcoming EPA and NDEP actions related to lead and arsenic soil contamination in Eureka:

### **Residential Soil Cleanup**

EPA completed soil cleanup at 18 properties (17 residential and 1 area at the elementary school) in September and October 2013. EPA is working with owners of approximately 15 to 20 more residential properties with the highest concentrations of contaminants to obtain approval on individual cleanup plans prior to an additional round of cleanup planned to start April 28.

### **Evaluation of Cleanup Options**

EPA and NDEP have proposed to complete a six to nine month Engineering Evaluation/Cost Analysis study this year to evaluate options and costs for addressing long term exposure to lead and arsenic contaminated soil in town. The study may provide options for addressing these concerns without listing Eureka on the Superfund National Priority List. The current and upcoming actions this spring will address the highest levels of contaminants at currently occupied properties. However, in order to address long term exposure and contaminant migration concerns, additional actions at slag piles, former smelter properties, and other currently occupied and unoccupied properties may be necessary and will be reviewed as part of the study. We will be working closely with Eureka County on public outreach associated with the study and to coordinate public input on the range of options considered.

### **Blood Lead Level Testing**

Free blood lead level testing continues to be offered at the Eureka Medical Clinic. Seven patients were tested through December 2013. Four children ages three to nine who are current residents

of Eureka were tested and had preliminary blood lead levels ranging from 3.8 to 10.3 ug/dl. NDEP has requested that the clinic **is** recommend confirmatory analysis via venous testing for individuals with initial levels above 5 ug/dl. Direct observation of health effects in individuals has not been reported in Eureka and is normally not seen at these low levels. However, these blood lead levels results indicate evidence of lead exposure at levels associated with potential neurological effects in children ages 0 to 6. The current contract between NDEP and Nevada Rural Health Centers to provide the testing extends through June 2015.

### **Coordination with Eureka County**

NDEP and EPA met with Eureka County officials in January to discuss the proposed Engineering Evaluation/Cost Analysis and provided a review at the February 6, 2014 County Commissioner Meeting. We are also coordinating with Eureka County on possible locations for a long term soil repository. At the County's request, NDEP has provided information on the proposed study for a story in the next Eureka County Plain Talk newsletter scheduled for publication and distribution to county residents in April 2014.

I hope you have a great weekend. Let me know if you have any questions or concerns.

Best Regards,

Colleen

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